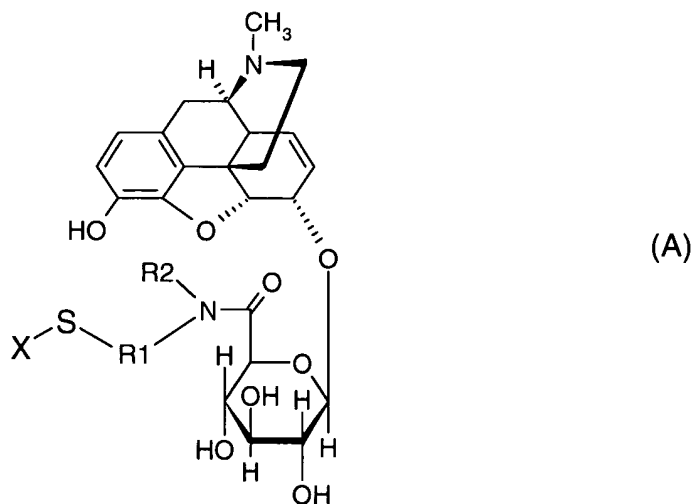


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims

1. (Currently Amended) Compound of formula (A):



in which:

- all of ~~the above entity~~ formula (A), with the exception of the substituent X, is called M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S-
- R₁ ~~represents~~ is a linear or branched C₁-C₁₀ alkyl group, unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, the alkyl chain being optionally interrupted by one or more heteroatoms ~~chosen from~~ including O, S ~~and~~ or N;
- R₂ ~~represents~~ is hydrogen, a linear or branched C₁-C₅ alkyl group or an aryl, heteroaryl or (C₁-C₅) alkylaryl group, unsubstituted or substituted by a C₁-C₄ alkyl;
- X ~~represents~~ is hydrogen, an M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residue or a polymer linked with the rest of ~~the entity~~ formula (A) by a spacer arm;
- the asymmetric carbons present in the formula (A) can have the R or S configuration, or
~~as well as its pharmaceutically acceptable salts~~ of formula (A).

2. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
~~-R₁ and R₂ are as defined in claim 1;~~
~~-wherein X represents is~~ an M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residue, the two M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S-
 residues constituting the compounds of formula (A) in dimer form being identical or
 different.

3. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
~~-R₁ is as defined in claim 1;~~
~~-wherein R₂ represents is~~ hydrogen, and
~~- X represents is~~ hydrogen.

4. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~
~~-R₁ is as defined in claim 1;~~
~~- wherein R₂ represents is~~ hydrogen, and
~~- X represents is~~ an M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residue in which R₁ and R₂ are as defined
 above.

5. (Currently Amended) Compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 ~~to 4~~,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein R₁ ~~represents is~~ an alkyl group substituted by one or more
 substituents including chosen from: a C₁-C₅ alkyl group; an amino group; a COOR₃
 group; a C₁-C₂₀ ketone; a C₁-C₂₀ aldehyde; or a CONR₃R₄ group, wherein R₃ and R₄ in
~~the COOR₃ or CONR₃R₄ groups are each~~ independently ~~representing~~ hydrogen, an
 optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl, an aryl, a heteroaryl or an alkylaryl group; ~~a C₁-C₂₀~~
~~ketone and a C₁-C₂₀ aldehyde.~~

6. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claims 1 or 3, wherein
~~characterized in that~~ R₁ ~~represents is~~ -(CH₂)₂-, R₂ is hydrogen and X is hydrogen.

7. (Currently Amended) Compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1, or 2 ~~or 4~~,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein R₁ ~~represents is~~ -(CH₂)₂-, R₂ is hydrogen and X is an M6G-
 N(R₂)R₁-S- residue in which R₁ = -(CH₂)₂- and R₂ is hydrogen.

8. (Currently Amended) Compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1; or 2 or 4, characterized in that

- wherein R_1 ~~represents~~ is a $-\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)-\text{CH}_2-$ group in which R_3 ~~represents~~ is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl,
- R_2 ~~represents~~ is hydrogen,
- X ~~represents~~ is hydrogen or an $\text{M6G-N}(\text{R}_2)\text{R}_1\text{-S-}$ residue in which $\text{R}_1 = -\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)-\text{CH}_2-$ in which R_3 is as defined above and R_2 is hydrogen.

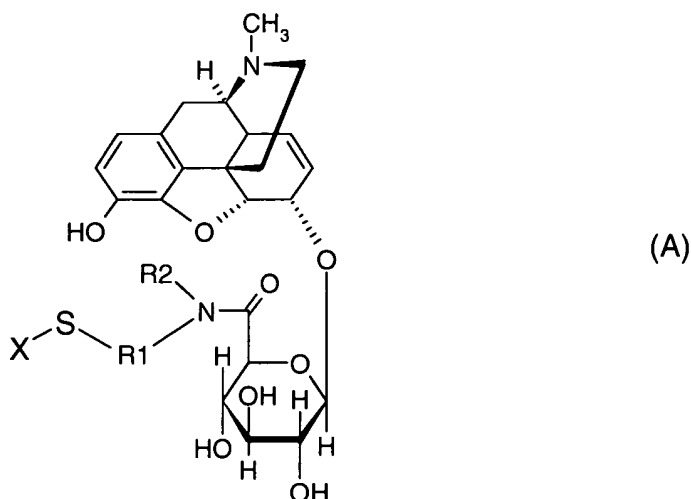
9. (Currently Amended) Compound according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 or 5, characterized in that wherein

- R_1 ~~represents~~ is a $-\text{CH}(\text{CONR}_3\text{R}_4)-\text{CH}_2-$ group in which R_3 and R_4 ~~represent~~ are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl,
- R_2 ~~represents~~ is hydrogen,
- X ~~represents~~ is hydrogen or an $\text{M6G-N}(\text{R}_2)\text{R}_1\text{-S-}$ residue in which $\text{R}_1 = -\text{CH}(\text{CONR}_3\text{R}_4)-\text{CH}_2-$ in which R_3 and R_4 are as defined above and R_2 is hydrogen.

10. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claims 1 or 5, characterized in that

- wherein R_1 ~~represents~~ is a $-\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2-$ group in which R_3 ~~represents~~ is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl,
- R_2 ~~represents~~ is hydrogen
- X ~~represents~~ is hydrogen or an $\text{M6G-N}(\text{R}_2)\text{R}_1\text{-S-}$ residue in which $\text{R}_1 = -\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2-$ in which R_3 is as defined above and R_2 is hydrogen.

11. (Currently Amended) Compound ~~according to claims 1 or 5~~, characterized in that of formula (A):



in which:

- all of formula (A), with the exception of the substituent X, is called M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S-

-wherein R₁ represents is a -CH(COOR₃)-(CH₂)₂-C(O)NHCH(R₅)-CH₂- group, in which R₃ represents is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl and R₅ represents is -C(O)-NH-CH₂-COOR₃,

- R₂ represents is hydrogen

- X represents is hydrogen or an M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residue in which R₁ = -CH(COOR₃)-(CH₂)₂-C(O)NHCH(R₅)-CH₂- in which R₃ and R₅ are as defined above and R₂ represents is hydrogen.

12. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~

-wherein R₁ represents is a -(CH₂)₂- group,

- R₂ represents is hydrogen

- X represents is a polymer linked to the rest of the entity by a spacer arm of formula -S-(CH₂)_n-NH-C(O)- in which n = 0 to 4 and said polymer is a polyethylene glycol of molecular weight (Mw) greater than or equal to 10000.

13. (Currently Amended) Method for the preparation of a compound of formula (A) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that it comprises the~~

~~stages consisting of~~ comprising reacting morphine-6-glucuronide with a compound of formula (III) $\text{NHR}_2\text{-R}_1\text{-S-S-R}_1\text{-NHR}_2$, in which R_1 and R_2 are as defined above ~~in any one of claims 1 to 11~~, in the presence of a coupling agent, and reducing the disulphide bridge using a reducing agent if necessary.

14. (Currently Amended) Method for the preparation of a compound of formula (A) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~, in which $\text{X} = \text{H}$, ~~characterized in that it comprises the stages consisting of~~ comprising reacting morphine-6-glucuronide with a compound of formula (IV) $\text{NHR}_2\text{-R}_1\text{-SH}$, in which R_1 and R_2 are as defined above ~~in any one of claims 1 to 12~~, in the presence of a coupling agent and reducing *in situ* the oxidation by-products using a reducing agent.

15. (Currently Amended) Method ~~according to one of claims 13 or 14~~, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the coupling agent includes ~~is chosen from~~ benzotriazol-1-yl-oxy-tris-pyrrolidino-phosphonium hexafluorophosphate (PyBOP), dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC), DCC combined with hydroxybenzotriazole (DCC/HOBT) ~~and or~~ diisopropylcarbodiimide combined with HOBT (DIPCDI/HOBT).

16. (Currently Amended) Method ~~according to one of claims 13 or 14~~, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the reducing agent ~~is chosen from~~ includes tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine, triphenylphosphine, tris(hydroxymethyl)-phosphine ~~and or~~ dithiothreitol.

17. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition, ~~characterized in that it contains~~ including a compound of formula (A) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

18. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that it is~~ which is in a form ~~which that~~ can be administered by parenteral route.

19. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that it is~~ which is in ~~the~~ a form of a preparation ~~which~~ that can be injected by sub-cutaneous, intravenous or intramuscular route.

20. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, ~~characterized in that it is~~ which is in a form ~~which~~ that can be administered by oral route.

21. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that it has~~ which has a sustained or controlled activity.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for treating pain comprising administering ~~Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to a human to 12 or a pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 17 to 21, for the production of a medicament intended for the treatment of pain.~~

23. (New) A method for treating pain comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17 to a human.